(b) whether employees and officers with 62 years age are still working in KRIBHCO; and

(c) if so, the details of the relevant rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, three persons have been engaged as Consultants who are beyond the age of 58, but they are not ex-employees of KRIBHCO.

Short supply of edible oils

1108. SHRI SURESH KALMADI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a wide gap between demand and indigenous availability of edible oils in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures Government have taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH). (a) Yes, Sir

(b) In Oil Year 1989-90, 6 07 lakh tonnes of edible oil of the value of Rs 328.32 crores has been imported Permission for use of 20 per cent expeller mustard/rapeseed oil in the manufacture of vanaspati has been withdrawn w e f 6-7-90 so as to increase the availability of these oils during the festival season The stock limits of edible oils with wholesalers and retailers have been reduced w e.f. 26-4-90 The stock limits of oilseeds with wholesalers and retailers have been reduced w e f 2-7-90 The stock limits of edible oils and vanaspati with producers of edible oils and vanaspati has been halved w.e f 2.7 90. State Governments have been reqeusted to take dehoarding operations to enforce reduced stock limits. To improve availability of edible oils, blending of one conventional edible oil with one refined non-conventional oil (like soybeen, cottonseed, safflower) has been permitted under the Prevention of food Adulteration Act by a notification issued on 23-4-90 Steps for increasing production covering improved seeds, pest control, better agricultural practices and market intervention operations have been continued under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds The Oilseeds Production Programme is being implemented during the current year with an outlay of Rs 70 crores

Visit of World Bank Team to flood affected areas of Orissa

1109. SHRI KAHNU CHARAN LENKA. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a World Bank Team have recently visited the flood-affected area of Ganjam district in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether any decision to provide financial assistance for the flood victims has been taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The World Bank Team felt that the most appropriate way in which the Bank could respond to the situation is to consider inclusion of the repair of major bridges and Irrigation works in the proposed "Subernarekha Irrigation Project" The State Government could also consider preparing and proposing for Bank support, a Project to upgrade the